

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a plurality of bearers in a cellular telecommunication system, said bearers being data transmission paths relating to a receiver and each bearer having at least one transport format (TF) describing properties of said bearer, the method comprising the steps of:

constructing a set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS), a transport format combination (TFC) being a combination of transport formats (TF) of a plurality of bearers, and

communicating information specifying said set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS) ~~to~~ toward the receiver for construction of said set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS) at the receiver.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said set of allowed transport format combinations is constructed by checking for each transport format combination to determine whether the combination is within predefined limits.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a transport format combination identifier is assigned to each combination of said set of allowed transport format combinations.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said assigning of transport format combination identifiers is performed in accordance with a predefined rule.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein said set of allowed transport format combinations is ordered according to at least the total bit rate of the transport format combinations, and said transport format combination identifiers are assigned so that the identifiers form a sequence of consecutive integer numbers.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of communicating information for construction of said set comprises the step of communicating each allowed transport format combination to said receiver.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of communicating information for construction of said set comprises the step of communicating of each non-allowed transport format combination to said receiver.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of communicating information for construction of said set comprises the step of communicating at least one limit for construction of said set to said receiver.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of communicating information for construction of said set comprises the step of communicating information specifying at least one transport format of at least one bearer, wherein at least one transport format of at least one bearer is not a part of any allowed transport format combination.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of communicating information for construction of said set comprises the step of specifying differences between said set to a previous set of transport format combinations.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a bearer request is admitted, if at least one of the transport formats of a requested bearer is a part of an allowed transport format combination.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein transport formats used in a transmission between a receiver and a transmitter are identified by sending a transport format combination identifier from the transmitter to the receiver.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein if either party of a connection detects that transport format combination identifiers of the receiver do not correspond to the transport format combination identifiers of the transmitter, the transport format combination identifiers are reconstructed at at least one party of the connection.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said reconstruction comprises reconstructing transport format combination identifiers at both parties of the connection in accordance with a predefined rule.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein during said reconstructing, one of the parties of the connection communicates its transport format combination identifiers to the other party, which utilizes the communicated identifiers.

16. (Currently Amended) A system for controlling a plurality of bearers in a cellular telecommunication system, said bearers being data transmission paths relating to a mobile communication means and each bearer having at least one transport format (TF) describing properties of said bearer, the system comprising:

means for constructing a set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS), a transport format combination (TFC) being a combination of transport formats (TF) of a plurality of bearers, in a network element of the cellular telecommunication system, and

means for communicating information specifying said set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS) ~~to~~ toward the mobile communication means for constructing said set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS) at the mobile communication means.

17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein said means for construction of a set of allowed transport format combinations comprises:

a memory element for storing the set of allowed transport format combinations,

a means for checking whether a single transport format combination is within predetermined limits, and

a means for adding a single transport format combination to said set of allowed transport format combinations stored in said memory element.

18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein said means for communication of a the constructed set of allowed transport format combinations to the mobile communication means comprises means for determining non-allowed transport format combinations.

19. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, further comprising means for storing a previously constructed second set of allowed transport format combinations, wherein said means for communication of a constructed set of allowed transport format combinations to a mobile communication means comprises means for searching differences between a transport format combination set and a stored second set of allowed transport format combinations.

20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, further comprising means for assigning a transport format combination identifier to each transport format combination stored in a memory element.

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, further comprising means for sending a transport format combination identifier for identifying the transport formats used in a transmission.

22. (New) A mobile communication device for controlling a plurality of bearers in a cellular telecommunication system, said bearers being data transmission paths relating to a mobile communication means and each bearer having at least one transport format (TF) describing properties of said bearer, the system comprising:

means for constructing a set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS), a transport format combination (TFC) being a combination of transport formats (TF) of a plurality of bearers, in the mobile communication means of the cellular telecommunication system, and

means for communicating information specifying said set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS) toward a network element for constructing said set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS) at the network element.

23. (New) A mobile communication device for controlling a plurality of bearers in a cellular telecommunication system, said bearers being data transmission paths relating to a mobile communication means and each bearer having at least one transport format (TF) describing properties of said bearer, the system comprising:

means for constructing a set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS), a transport format combination (TFC) being a combination of transport formats (TF) of a plurality of bearers and having a transport format combination identifier (TFCI), in the mobile communication means of the cellular telecommunication system,

means for communicating information specifying said set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS) to a network element for constructing said set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS) at the network element, and

means for communicating a current TFC belonging to said set of allowed transport format combinations to the network element via information indicative of a corresponding transport format combination identifier.

24. (New) A method for controlling a plurality of bearers in a cellular telecommunication system, said bearers being data transmission paths relating to a receiver and each bearer having at least one transport format (TF) describing properties of said bearer, the method comprising the steps of:

constructing a set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS), a transport format combination (TFC) being a combination of transport formats (TF) of a plurality of bearers and having a transport format combination identifier (TFCI),

communicating information specifying said set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS) to the receiver for construction of said set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS) at the receiver, and

communicating a current TFC belonging to said set of allowed transport format combinations to the receiver via information indicative of a corresponding transport format combination identifier.

25. (Currently Amended) A system for controlling a plurality of bearers in a cellular telecommunication system, said bearers being data transmission paths relating to a mobile communication means and each bearer having at least one transport format (TF) describing properties of said bearer, the system comprising:

means for constructing a set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS), a transport format combination (TFC) being a combination of transport formats (TF) of a plurality of bearers and having a transport format combination identifier (TFCI), in a network element of the cellular telecommunication system,

means for communicating information specifying said set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS) to the mobile communication means for constructing said set of allowed transport format combinations (TFCS) at the mobile communication means, and

means for communicating a current TFC belonging to said set of allowed transport format combinations to the mobile communication means via information indicative of a corresponding transport format combination identifier.